

Uncertain Times: Navigating a New Era of Eligibility

Webinar | Thursday, June 26 2025



# Thanks for joining our webinar!



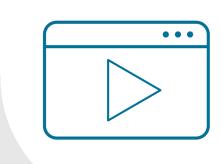
#### Welcome!

Thank you for joining our webinar. Stay tuned for more from Equifax
Government Solutions!



#### Questions?

Please enter your questions in the chat box on your screen at any point during the presentation.



#### Recording

This webinar is being recorded. You will receive an email with a link to view the recording in the coming days.



# Critical items we'll discuss today:

- Trump administration priorities impacting social services
- Data trends among applicant populations
- How agencies are addressing changes while supporting continuity of benefits
- Simple, secure income verification beyond W-2s



# Meet the Panelists



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# Today's Landscape:

I. Trump administration priorities impacting social services



The Trump administration is emphasizing government efficiency and streamlining federal operations, including those related to social programs.

#### Reconciliation Bill (current draft)

#### **Medicaid Program - Potential Requirements:**

- States to conduct eligibility determinations for expansion adult populations
- Updated work requirements
- Grant funding for implementation and support

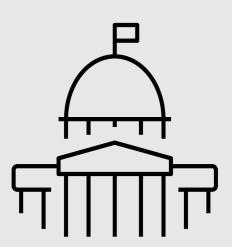
#### **SNAP Program - Potential Requirements:**

- Increased state accountability
- State cost sharing, based on payment error rate percentage
- Reduction of federal match on SNAP administrative expenses

# What are we watching for?

- How will the Reconciliation Bill and other bills impact social service programs?
- II. How do states respond?
- III. Are these changes here to stay?







#### How could these changes be implemented by the administration or Congress?

#### Here are some examples:

#### **Reconciliation Bill**

- The House-passed megabill of Trump's tax cut and spending priorities is making its way through Congress.
- Senate unveiled its version of reconciliation, which in a surprise - included deeper Medicaid cuts.
- Trying to find more savings without shifting costs to states will be difficult.

#### **Rescissions Package**

- Using a maneuver called "pocket rescissions," the Trump Administration could move to make permanent cuts to federal spending without congressional approval.
- This is a way to claw back money already approved by Congress.



# Poll 1: Understanding Agency Priorities

Which of the following is the biggest challenge you're facing in administering Social Service Programs?

- A) Adapting to new work requirements
- **OB) Managing increasing caseloads**
- C) Verifying non-traditional income
- D) Ensuring timely benefit delivery
- E) Reducing manual verifications
- F) Enhancing program integrity



# Today's Landscape:

- I. Trump administration priorities impacting social services
- Data trends among the applicant populations



# Understanding the Fluctuations in Income and Employment for Benefit Applicants

Based on a 2025 Equifax study:



#### **Income Changes**

- 15% experienced an average monthly income decrease of more than 40%.
- 21% experienced an average monthly income increase of more than 40%.



#### **Job Turnover**

 9% changed jobs at least once during the year Rapid income shifts and job changes can impact benefit eligibility and caseworker demands.

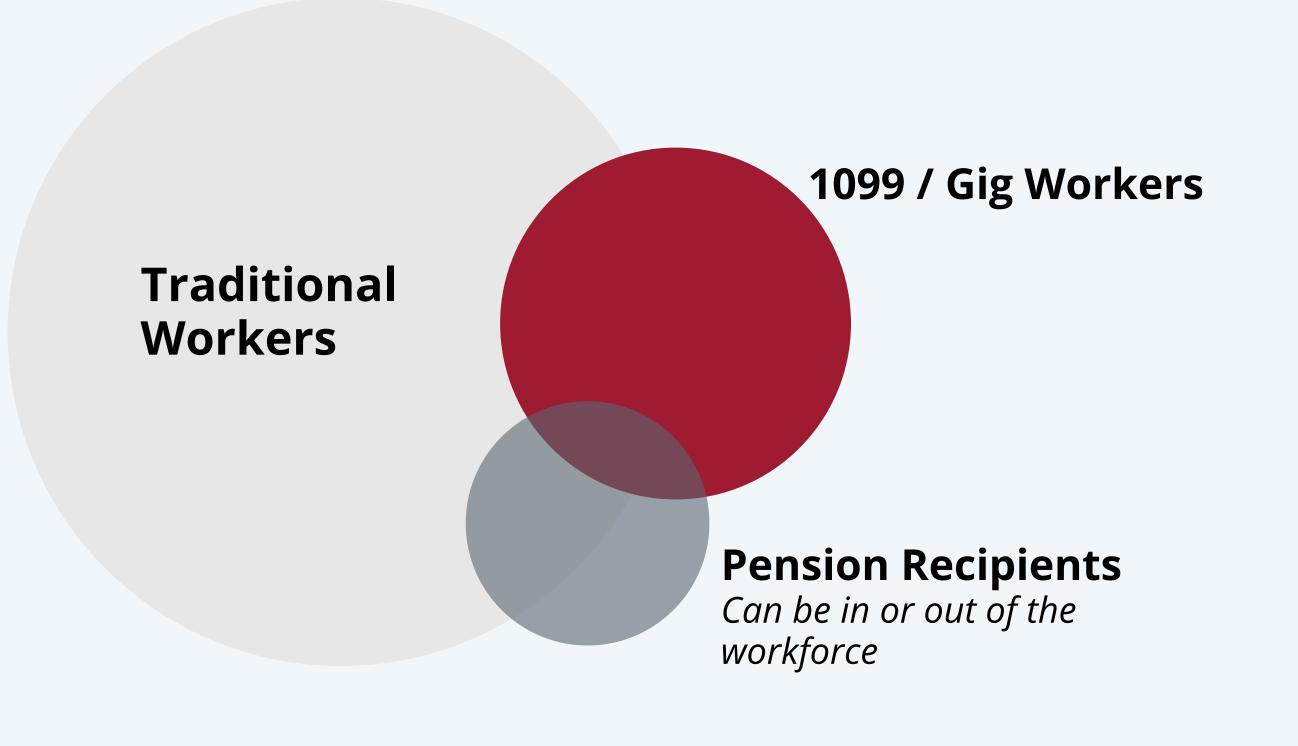
Source: Equifax EWS D&A analysis, 2025.

# **Emerging Trends in the US Labor Market**

#### 1099 and Gig workers are a growing part of the US labor force...

Gig economy is growing 3x faster than the total workforce<sup>1</sup>

of Americans are now working a side job in addition to their fulltime job to pay their bills<sup>2</sup>



Sources: 1. Gigonomics 2024, 2. The Authority Hacker, 2024



#### Non W-2 or "Traditional" Workers:

#### A growing population in need of support

#### 1099 and Gig workers often deal with high touch income verification processes



#### **Household Assistance**

**15%** Gig workers receive public assistance<sup>1</sup>

2X More Gig workers use SNAP benefits vs. traditional W-2 service sector<sup>2</sup>

13% Food delivery workers depend on Supplemental Nutrition Assistance<sup>1</sup>



#### **Healthcare Assistance**

>25% App-based Gig workers get health insurance through Medicaid<sup>3</sup>

**22%** Gig workers say they can't afford health insurance vs. 13% of all workers<sup>4</sup>

Underinsured compared to W-2 workers<sup>5</sup>

Sources: 1. Gig Economy By The Numbers 2. Economic Policy Institute 3. Stride Health -1 4. Stride Health - 2 5. Gig Worker Learning Project



# Poll 2: Current State of Income Verification

How does your agency primarily verify non-traditional income (e.g. Gig workers, self-employed) for benefit applicants today?

- A) Applicant self-attestation
- o B) Applicant provided documents (ledgers, business records, tax forms, etc.)
- C) Third-party consumer permissioned databases
- D) Third-party consumer-credentialed solutions (e.g. bank-connected data)



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- Data trends among applicant populations
- Addressing changes while supporting continuity of benefits



# Data insights provide value throughout the Social Service benefit lifecycle

**Initial Determination** of Benefit Eligibility

**Life Events and Mid-Year Reviews That May Impact Eligibility** 

**Annual Renewals** 

Unique data sets and solutions:



Income & **Employment** Verifications



**Program Integrity** 

Incarceration Pointer Data



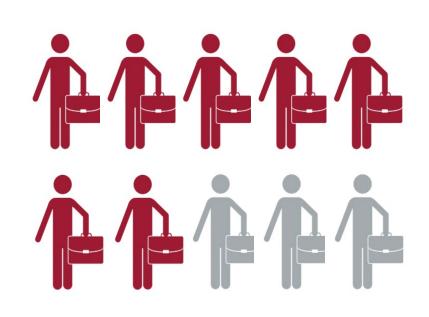
Address & Contact Validation •

# Transforming the Income Verification Experience

Simple, secure income verification beyond W-2s

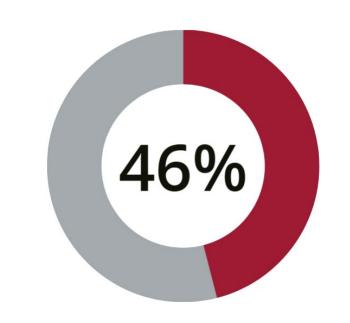


# Equifax Study: Agency Perspective



#### 7 out of 10 managers within

government agencies lack access to records of income earned outside of traditional employment.<sup>1</sup>



46% of benefit decision makers noted direct access to applicant income data as their primary need.<sup>1</sup>

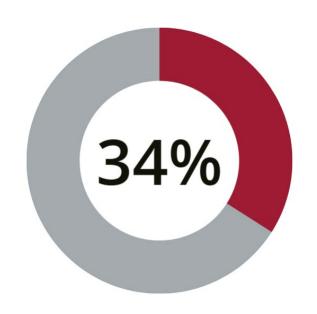
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We're kind of acting like their accountants sometimes, trying to guide them through itemizing and expense tracking...we're relying a lot on verbal reports from people who often don't know how to track or report income...we're under time constraints — we're supposed to finish intake interviews in 45 minutes to an hour, but...it can easily take two hours."

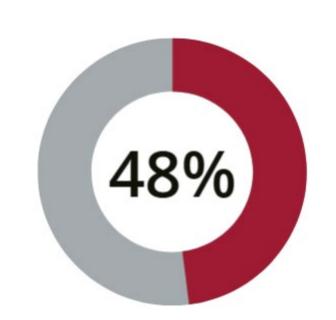
- State Agency Eligibility Specialist



# Equifax Study: Applicant Perspective



34% of applicants expressed concerns regarding security and privacy related to their income information.



48% of applicants say they worry they might make errors on the application.<sup>1</sup>



87% of applicants surveyed stated they are likely to use a secure online platform that connects to bank accounts and simplifies the application process.<sup>1</sup>

I would love it. It would make applying so much easier. It really gets annoying finding each set of paperwork, getting dates and signatures, having to copy and send originals. Anything I can do automatically to make the entire process easier and less error prone, I am interested in.

- Surveyed Applicant

<sup>1</sup> Equifax Study, May 2025.



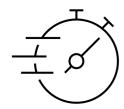
# Complete Income™

## A more complete financial picture of applicants

With **Complete Income**, Social Services agencies can verify earned income from W-2 and self-employment, as well as unearned income and related self-employment expenses for benefit applicants.

See instant payroll data, bank-connected deposits, and self-reported income and expenses.

- Access the full power of The Work Number®
- ✓ Applicants can connect to 92%+ of US financial institutions
- ✓ Plus, applicants can manually enter income and expenses



Improves efficiency, reduces friction



Addresses vulnerable populations



More comprehensive income verification



Solution regulated by the FCRA



**Enhances data privacy, security** 





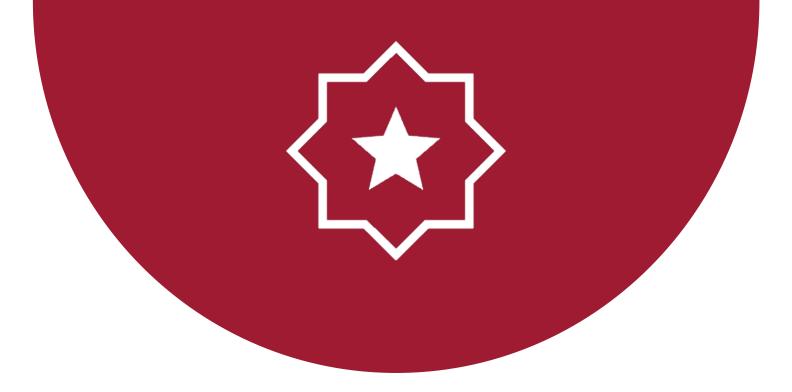
# Actionable insights: How can we better support you?

- 1. Connect with us for an income and employment data analysis on your benefit population to gauge solution impact
- 2. Schedule a demo, or beta test the Complete Income solution
- 3. Set up a 1:1 discovery call with our team to identify potential time and cost savings for your agency





# Next Steps



## 1 SURVEY

Complete the survey through the webinar console

### 2 CONTACT

Want to talk to someone about your verification needs? Click on the "Want to Get In Touch" button on your webinar console or contact us at:

theworknumber.com/contact





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